

144 State Street Montpelier, VT 05633-3601 802-828-2177 Kevin Mullin, Chair Jessica Holmes, Ph.D. Robin Lunge, J.D., MHCDS Tom Pelham Thom Walsh, Ph.D., MS, MSPT Susan J. Barrett, J.D., Executive Director

## **DELIVERED ELECTRONICALLY**

March 14, 2022

Timothy Archer CEO, New England United Healthcare P.O. Box 1459 Minneapolis, MN 55440

Dear Mr. Archer.

I write to urge UnitedHealthcare (UHC) to 1) actively negotiate with the University of Vermont Health Network (UVMHN) to reach an agreement that will continue UVMHN's participation in UHC's commercial provider network; 2) employ the services of a mediator if necessary to reach agreement; and 3) in the event an agreement cannot be reached, to try to extend the contract for at least a few months to give employers more time to transition their plans to other insurers or to give patients more time to transition their care to other providers.

As you know, patients are already being impacted by the impasse. The Green Mountain Care Board has received comments from several individuals who understandably feel caught in the middle of a dispute between two large and powerful institutions and who are very concerned that if the parties cannot reach agreement, they will no longer be able to access necessary care at an affordable price. Therefore, I must urge you to do everything you can to resolve this issue with UVMHN as soon as possible and, failing that, to work to protect the interests of patients who will be impacted.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kevin Mullin, Chair

Green Mountain Care Board

